

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A truss assembly apparatus for assembling truss structures, by assembly on two or more consecutive, spaced apart, coplanar work table surfaces and with a gantry type press assembly of a plurality of wooden truss members and truss connector plates with toothed projections, the truss members coupled by embedding the connector plate projections into said truss members, said truss assembly apparatus comprising:

a gantry type press assembly with a first end and a second end adapted to be mounted on a first end and second end of each of said work table surfaces, for movement over the work table surfaces and the space between adjacent work table surfaces, said gantry assembly comprising continuous belt means on said first and second ends for driving of said gantry assembly, by engagement of said continuous driving belt with said first and second table ends and said gantry assembly configured to be supported by said continuous belt means, during movement of the gantry over a work table surface and when crossing the space between work table surfaces.

2. (original) A truss assembly apparatus for assembling truss structures, by assembly on two or more consecutive, spaced apart, coplanar work table surfaces and with a gantry type press assembly of a plurality of wooden truss members and truss connector plates with toothed projections, the truss members coupled by embedding the connector plate projections into said truss members, said truss assembly apparatus comprising:

rail means mounted on a first end and a second end of each work table surface of said two or more work table surfaces, a gantry type press assembly having a first end and second end adapted to be mounted on said first and second rail means, for movement over the work table surfaces and the space between adjacent work table surfaces, said gantry assembly comprising continuous belt means coupled to said first and second ends for driving of said gantry assembly, by engagement of said continuous driving belt means with said first and second rail means and said gantry assembly configured to be supported by said continuous belt means on engagement with said first and second rail means,

during movement of the gantry over a work table surface or when crossing the space between work table surfaces.

3. (original) The truss assembly apparatus of claim 1, wherein the gantry type press assembly is a gantry roller type assembly.

4. (original) The truss assembly apparatus of claim 2, wherein the gantry type press assembly is a gantry roller type assembly.

5. (original) The truss assembly apparatus of claim 1, further comprising guide pad means coupled to said first and second ends of said gantry assembly and guide rail means coupled to said first and second ends of said work tables, said guide pads configured to be engaged with said guide rail means.

6. (original) The truss assembly apparatus of claim 2, further comprising guide pad means coupled to said first and second ends of said gantry assembly and guide rail means coupled to said first and second ends of said work tables, said guide pads configured to be engaged with said guide rail means.

7. (original) The truss assembly apparatus of claim 3, further comprising guide pad means coupled to said first and second ends of said gantry assembly and guide rail means coupled to said first and second ends of said work tables, said guide pads configured to be engaged with said guide rail means.

8. (original) The truss assembly apparatus of claim 4, further comprising guide pad means coupled to said first and second ends of said gantry assembly and guide rail means coupled to said first and second ends of said work tables, said guide pads configured to be engaged with said guide rail means.

9. (original) The truss assembly apparatus of claim 2, further comprising guide pad means coupled to said first and second ends of said gantry assembly configured to engage with said rail means.

10. (original) The truss assembly apparatus of claim 4, further comprising guide pad means coupled to said first and second ends of said gantry assembly configured to engage with said rail means.